<u>In The Claims:</u>

1.   (Currently Amended) A system for performing a streamlined photo distribution procedure in an electronic network, comprising:

   a photo data source configured to provide photo data to a source device in said electronic network, <u>said photo data being added to a source photo album of said source device</u>;

   a source photo manager of said source device configured to designate a message target for receiving said photo data from said source device;

   a source mail program of said source device configured to automatically receive said photo data from said source photo manager, said source mail program automatically creating a photo message that includes said photo data and photo identifier means to request a special handling of said photo data, <u>said photo identifier means associating said photo data with a target photo album,</u> said source mail program automatically transmitting said photo message over said electronic network;

   a target mail program of a target device corresponding to said message target, said target mail program downloading said photo message from said electronic network, said target mail program automatically detecting said photo identifier means in said photo message; and

   a target photo manager of said target device configured to receive said photo data from said target mail program whenever said photo identifier means is detected, said target photo manager automatically ~~storing~~ <u>associating</u> said photo data ~~into~~ <u>with</u> [[a]] <u>said</u> target photo album of said target device<u>, said target photo album being viewed on said target device</u>.

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2.   (Original) The system of claim 1 wherein said photo data source is implemented as an electronic camera device that communicates with said source device by utilizing at least one of a wireless and a hard-wired communication technique.

3.   (Original) The system of claim 1 wherein said source device is implemented as a consumer-electronics entertainment device that communicates with said target device through said electronic network.

4.   (Original) The system of claim 3 wherein said consumer-electronics entertainment device is network-enabled to communicate over said electronic network, and wherein respective stand-alone functionalities of said electronic camera device and said consumer-electronics entertainment device are combined to effectively perform said streamlined photo distribution procedure in said electronic network.

5.   (Original) The system of claim 3 wherein said consumer-electronics entertainment device is configured to include a hard-disk-drive memory device storing one or more electronic gaming programs, said consumer-electronics entertainment device being further configured to include a broadband navigator and a network adapter for communicating over said electronic network.

6.   (Original) The system of claim 1 wherein said photo identifier means includes a special photo identifier tag that said source mail program creates as part of a message header of said photo message to thereby identify said photo message as containing said photo data for automatically storing into said target photo album by said target photo manager.

7.   (Original) The system of claim 1 wherein said electronic network includes an Internet network, said source device communicating with said target device via said Internet network.

8.   (Original) The system of claim 1 wherein said electronic network includes at least one of an intranet network and a peer-to-peer network, said source device communicating with said target device via said at least one of said intranet network and said peer-to-peer network.

9.   (Original) The system of claim 1 wherein said target photo album is configured to store and display at least one set of said photo data, said at least one set of said photo data including image data corresponding to a captured photographic image and optional ancillary data related to said image data, said target device utilizing said photo manager to selectively organize and manage said at least one set of said photo data in said photo album.

10.   (Original) The system of claim 1 wherein said source photo manager of said source device initially performs a message-target pre-selection procedure to designate said message target for receiving said photo data from said source device prior to obtaining said photo data from said photo data source.

11.   (Original) The system of claim 10 wherein said source photo manager of said source device initiates a streamlined one-click transmission procedure in which said source photo manager captures said photo data from said photo data source, said source photo manager then automatically sending said photo data to said source mail program.

12.   (Original) The system of claim 11 wherein said source mail program automatically attaches said photo data and said photo identifier means to said photo message, said source mail program then automatically transmitting said photo message to a network server in said electronic network for retrieval by said message target.

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13. (Original) The system of claim 1 wherein said source photo manager of said source device initiates a streamlined two-click transmission procedure in which said source photo manager captures said photo data from said photo data source, said source photo manager then automatically generating a message-target user interface for designating said message target for receiving said photo data.

14. (Original) The system of claim 13 wherein said source photo manager of said source device manages a message-target selection procedure to designate said message target for receiving said photo data from said source device, said source photo manager then automatically sending said photo data to said source mail program.

15. (Original) The system of claim 14 wherein said source mail program automatically attaches said photo data and said photo identifier means to said photo.message, said source mail program then automatically transmitting said photo message to a network server in said electronic network for retrieval by said message target.

16. (Original) The system of claim 1 wherein said target mail program of said target device performs a log-in procedure for communicating with a network server of said electronic network, said target mail program then downloading said photo message from said network server to said target device.

17. (Original) The system of claim 16 wherein a special photo-message reader of said target mail program decodes a message header of said photo message to determine whether said photo identifier means is detected as part of said photo message.

18. (Original) The system of claim 17 wherein said target mail program automatically provides said photo data to said target photo manager whenever said photo identifier means is detected, said target photo manager automatically storing said photo data into said target photo album of said target device.

19. (Original) The system of claim 1 wherein said source photo manager designates a plurality of message targets for receiving said photo data from said source device, said source mail program of said source device automatically transmitting a plurality of photo messages over said electronic network to said plurality of message targets, a plurality of target devices automatically storing respective copies of said photo data into corresponding target photo albums.

20. (Original) The system of claim 1 wherein said photo message is alternately implemented to distribute at least one of audio data, graphics data, video data, and text data instead of said photo data.

21. (Currently Amended) A method for performing a streamlined photo distribution procedure in an electronic network, comprising the steps of:

> providing photo data from a photo data source to a source device in said electronic network, said photo data being added to a source photo album of said source device;

> designating a message target for receiving said photo data from said source device by using a source photo manager of said source device;

> utilizing a source mail program of said source device to automatically receive said photo data from said source photo manager, said source mail program automatically creating a photo message that includes said photo data and photo identifier means to request a special handling of said photo data, said photo identifier means associating said photo data with a target photo album, said source mail program automatically transmitting said photo message over said electronic network;

downloading said photo message from said electronic network by utilizing a
target mail program of a target device corresponding to said message
target, said target mail program automatically detecting said photo
identifier means in said photo message; and

receiving said photo data from said target mail program by utilizing a
target photo manager of said target device whenever said photo
identifier means is detected, said target photo manager automatically
~~storing~~ associating said photo data ~~into~~ with [[a]] said target photo
album of said target device, said target photo album being viewed on
said target device.

22.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21 wherein said photo data
source is implemented as an electronic camera device that communicates with
said source device by utilizing at least one of a wireless and a hard-wired
communication technique.

23.   (Original) The method of claim 21 wherein said source device is
implemented as a consumer-electronics entertainment device that communicates
with said target device through said electronic network.

24.   (Original) The method of claim 23 wherein said consumer-electronics
entertainment device is network-enabled to communicate over said electronic
network, and wherein respective stand-alone functionalities of said electronic
camera device and said consumer-electronics entertainment device are combined
to effectively perform said streamlined photo distribution procedure in said
electronic network.

25. (Original) The method of claim 23 wherein said consumer-electronics entertainment device is configured to include a hard-disk-drive memory device storing one or more electronic gaming programs, said consumer-electronics entertainment device being further configured to include a broadband navigator and a network adapter for communicating over said electronic network.

26. (Original) The method of claim 21 wherein said photo identifier means includes a special photo identifier tag that said source mail program creates as part of a message header of said photo message to thereby identify said photo message as containing said photo data for automatically storing into said target photo album by said target photo manager.

27. (Original) The method of claim 21 wherein said electronic network includes an Internet network, said source device communicating with said target device via said Internet network.

28. (Original) The method of claim 21 wherein said electronic network includes at least one of an intranet network and a peer-to-peer network, said source device communicating with said target device via said at least one of said intranet network and said peer-to-peer network.

29. (Original) The method of claim 21 wherein said target photo album is configured to store and display at least one set of said photo data, said at least one set of said photo data including image data corresponding to a captured photographic image and optional ancillary data related to said image data, said target device utilizing said photo manager to selectively organize and manage said at least one set of said photo data in said photo album.

30. (Original) The method of claim 21 wherein said source photo manager of said source device initially performs a message-target pre-selection procedure to designate said message target for receiving said photo data from said source device prior to obtaining said photo data from said photo data source.

31. (Original) The method of claim 30 wherein said source photo manager of said source device initiates a streamlined one-click transmission procedure in which said source photo manager captures said photo data from said photo data source, said source photo manager then automatically sending said photo data to said source mail program.

32. (Original) The method of claim 31 wherein said source mail program automatically attaches said photo data and said photo identifier means to said photo message, said source mail program then automatically transmitting said photo message to a network server in said electronic network for retrieval by said message target.

33. (Original) The method of claim 21 wherein said source photo manager of said source device initiates a streamlined two-click transmission procedure in which said source photo manager captures said photo data from said photo data source, said source photo manager then automatically generating a message-target user interface for designating said message target for receiving said photo data.

34. (Original) The method of claim 33 wherein said source photo manager of said source device manages a message-target selection procedure to designate said message target for receiving said photo data from said source device, said source photo manager then automatically sending said photo data to said source mail program.

35.   (Original) The method of claim 34 wherein said source mail program automatically attaches said photo data and said photo identifier means to said photo message, said source mail program then automatically transmitting said photo message to a network server in said electronic network for retrieval by said message target.

36.   (Original) The method of claim 21 wherein said target mail program of said target device performs a log-in procedure for communicating with a network server of said electronic network, said target mail program then downloading said photo message from said network server to said target device.

37.   (Original) The method of claim 36 wherein a special photo-message reader of said target mail program decodes a message header of said photo message to determine whether said photo identifier means is detected as part of said photo message.

38.   (Original) The method of claim 37 wherein said target mail program automatically provides said photo data to said target photo manager whenever said photo identifier means is detected, said target photo manager automatically storing said photo data into said target photo album of said target device.

39.   (Original) The method of claim 21 wherein said source photo manager designates a plurality of message targets for receiving said photo data from said source device, said source mail program of said source device automatically transmitting a plurality of photo messages over said electronic network to said plurality of message targets, a plurality of target devices automatically storing respective copies of said photo data into corresponding target photo albums.

40.   (Original) The method of claim 21 wherein said photo message is alternately implemented to distribute at least one of audio data, graphics data, video data, and text data instead of said photo data.

41.   (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium comprising program instructions for performing a streamlined photo distribution procedure in an electronic network, by performing the steps of:

> providing photo data from a photo data source to a source device in said electronic network, said photo data being added to a source photo album of said source device;
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> designating a message target for receiving said photo data from said source device by using a source photo manager of said source device;
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> utilizing a source mail program of said source device to automatically receive said photo data from said source photo manager, said source mail program automatically creating a photo message that includes said photo data and photo identifier means to request a special handling of said photo data, said photo identifier means associating said photo data with a target photo album, said source mail program automatically transmitting said photo message over said electronic network;
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> downloading said photo message from said electronic network by utilizing a target mail program of a target device corresponding to said message target, said target mail program automatically detecting said photo identifier means in said photo message; and
>
> receiving said photo data from said target mail program by utilizing a target photo manager of said target device whenever said photo identifier means is detected, said target photo manager automatically storing associating said photo data into with [[a]] said target photo album of said target device, said target photo album being viewed on said target device.

42.   (Currently Amended) A system for performing a streamlined photo distribution procedure in an electronic network, comprising:

> means for providing photo data to a source device in said electronic network, said photo data being added to a source photo album of said source device;
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> means for designating a message target for receiving said photo data from said source device;
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> means for receiving said photo data automatically from said means for designating, said means for receiving automatically creating a photo message that includes said photo data and photo identifier means to request special handling of said photo data, said photo identifier means associating said photo data with a target photo album, said means for receiving automatically transmitting said photo message over said electronic network;
>
> means for downloading said photo message from said electronic network, said means for downloading automatically detecting said photo identifier means in said photo message; and
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> means for accessing said photo data from said means for downloading whenever said photo identifier means is detected, said means for accessing automatically storing associating said photo data into with [[a]] said target photo album of said messaging target, said target photo album being viewed on said messaging target.

43. (Currently Amended) A system for performing a streamlined photo distribution procedure in an electronic network, comprising:

a photo data source configured to provide photo data to a source device in said electronic network, said photo data being added to a source photo album of said source device;

a source photo manager of said source device configured to designate a message target for receiving said photo data from said source device; and

a source mail program of said source device configured to automatically receive said photo data from said source data manager, said source mail program automatically creating a photo message that includes said photo data and a photo identifier tag to request a special handling of said photo data, said photo identifier means associating said photo data with a target photo album, said source mail program automatically transmitting said photo message over said electronic network.

44. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 43 further comprising

a target mail program of a target device corresponding to said message target, said target mail program downloading said photo message from said electronic network, said target mail program automatically detecting said photo identifier tag in said photo message, and

a target photo manager of said target device configured to receive said photo data from said target mail program whenever said photo identifier tag is detected, said target photo manager automatically storing associating said photo data into with [[a]] said target photo album of said target device, said target photo album being viewed on said target device.

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45.   (Currently Amended) A system for performing a streamlined photo distribution procedure in an electronic network, comprising:

a target mail program of a target device corresponding to a designated message target, said target mail program downloading a photo message from said electronic network, said target mail program automatically detecting a photo identifier tag in said photo message; and

a target photo manager of said target device configured to receive said photo data from said photo message whenever said photo identifier tag is detected, said target photo manager automatically ~~storing~~ associating said photo data ~~into~~ with [[a]] said target photo album of said target device, said target photo album being viewed on said target device.

46.   (Currently Amended) The system of claim 45 further comprising

a photo data source configured to initially provide said photo data to a source device in said electronic network, said photo data being added to a source photo album of said source device;

a source photo manager of said source device configured to specify said designated message target for receiving said photo data from said source device; and

a source mail program of said source device configured to automatically receive said photo data from said source photo manager, said source mail program automatically creating said photo message that includes said photo data and said photo identifier tag to request a special handling of said photo data, said photo identifier means associating said photo data with a target photo album, said source mail program automatically transmitting said photo message over said electronic network.

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47.   (Currently Amended) A system for performing a streamlined data distribution procedure in an electronic network, comprising:

> a source data manager configured to designate a message target for receiving data from a source device in said electronic network, said source device automatically transmitting said data over said electronic network; and

> a target device corresponding to said message target, said target device automatically providing said data to a target data manager that automatically stores said data into a target data album, said target data album being utilized on said target device.

48.   (Original) The system of claim 47 further comprising a data source configured to provide said data to said source device in said electronic network.

49.   (Currently Amended) The system of claim 47 wherein said data includes a data identifier tag to request a special handling of said data by said target data manager, said data identifier tag associating said data with a target album.

50.   (Original) The system of claim 47 wherein said source data manager designates one or more message targets for receiving data by selecting from a message target address book, utilizing a message target default set, or manually entering one or more message target addresses.

51.   (Original) The system of claim 47 wherein said source data manager automatically stores said data into a local data album corresponding to said source device while said source device also automatically transmits said data over said electronic network.

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52.   (Currently Amended) A system for performing a streamlined photo distribution procedure in an electronic network, comprising:

a portable electronic device configured to provide photo data to a source device via a communications network, <u>said photo data being added to a source photo album of said source device,</u> said portable electronic device automatically creating a special identifier tag to designate said photo data for said streamlined photo distribution procedure;

a source photo manager of said source device configured to receive said photo data and said special identifier tag from said portable electronic device via said communications network, said source photo manager designating a message target group for receiving said photo data from said source device; and

a source mail program of said source device configured to automatically receive said photo data from said source data manager, said source mail program automatically creating a photo message that includes said photo data and a photo identifier tag to request a special handling of said photo data, <u>said photo identifier tag associating said photo data with a target photo album,</u> said source mail program automatically transmitting said photo message over said electronic network to said message target group<u>, said photo data being viewed on respective target devices of said message target group</u>.

53.   (New) The system of claim 1 wherein said photo distribution procedure is implemented by utilizing a one-click technique in which a system user performs only one single triggering action to initiate said photo distribution procedure, said source device responsively capturing said photo data, creating said photo message, and sending said photo message to said target photo album in an automatic manner.

54. (New) The system of claim 1 wherein said photo distribution procedure automatically synchronizes said source photo album and said target photo album to contain identical digital photographs.

55. (New) The system of claim 1 wherein said photo identifier means is created concurrently with sending said photo message to said target device, said photo identifier means not being created beforehand.

56. (New) The system of claim 1 wherein said source device and said target device are implemented by utilizing a substantially similar device configuration.

57. (New) The system of claim 55 wherein said source device and said target device are both implemented as electronic gaming devices in an electronic gaming network.

58. (New) The system of claim 1 wherein said source device and said photo data source are two separate non-integral electronic devices.

59. (New) The system of claim 1 wherein said source device transmits said photo message directly to said target device through a peer-to-peer connection that does not include any intermediate server device.

60. (New) The system of claim 1 wherein said photo data source transmits said photo data directly to said source device through a direct electrical connection that does not include any intermediate server device.

61. (New) The system of claim 1 wherein said photo message transmits auxiliary data that includes text data and audio data.

62. (New) The system of claim 1 wherein said photo data is transmitted in a full-resolution format as originally captured by said photo data source.

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